

**Amendments to the Claims:**

1. – 59. (cancelled)
60. (previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting of nucleotides 206-2603 of SEQ ID NO: 1 and variants thereof that are at least 94% identical over the entire length of nucleotides 206-2603 of SEQ ID NO: 1;  
wherein said nucleic acid molecule encodes a urease protein having enzymatic activity that catalyzes the hydrolysis of urea.
61. (cancelled)
62. (previously presented) A recombinant DNA molecule comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 60 or said variants thereof, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule or said variants thereof are under the control of a functionally linked promoter.
63. (previously presented) A live recombinant carrier comprising the recombinant DNA molecule of claim 62.
64. (previously presented) An isolated host cell comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 60 or said variants thereof.
65. (previously presented) An isolated host cell comprising the recombinant DNA molecule of claim 62.
66. (previously presented) An isolated host cell comprising the live recombinant carrier of claim 63.
- 67.-81. (cancelled)

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82. (previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 60, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is nucleotides 206-2603 of SEQ ID NO: 1.

83.-84. (cancelled)